GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2041
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2017
Processing of Potatoes
Singh Shri Ravneet

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

whether agro-processing industries is procuring and processing potatoes in Punjab and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether these industries are Government owned or privately owned and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is taking initiative to set up more such units in Punjab so that potato farmers can get benefit therefrom; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

(a) & (b): Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not maintain any data relating to procurement and processing of potatoes by agro-processing industries.

(c) & (d): Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not set up any food processing units including potato processing units on its own in the country. However, under the Scheme for Technology Upgradation/ Establishment/ Modernization of Food Processing Industries implemented during 11th Plan, the financial assistance has been provided for setting up of new food processing units as well as Technological Upgradation and Expansion of existing units including potato processing industries under Fruits & Vegetables sector in the country including Punjab. This scheme was subsequently subsumed in the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS)-National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP) with effect from 01.04.2012 till 31.03.2015. Thereafter, the said scheme got delinked from Government of India's assistance and it was left to the State Governments to decide on its continuance from their increased resources as per recommendation of 14th Finance Commission. The committed/spillover liabilities of cases received upto end of 11th Plan are being considered by Ministry of Food Processing Industries for sanction of Grant − in - aid during the 12th Plan under the said scheme as per availability of funds and merits of proposals. The details of Food Processing Industries under Fruits & Vegetable Sector including Potato processing units in Punjab assisted during last three years and current year as part of meeting committed liabilities of 11th Plan are shown below:

2013-14		2014-15		2015-16		2016-17	
No. of units.	Amount [in Cr.]	No. of units.	Amount [in Cr.]	No. of units.	Amount [in Cr.]	No. of units.	Amount [in Cr.]
83	9.49	42	4.68	27	3.64	28	3.51

In addition, Ministry of Food Processing Industries has been implementing the Mega Food Park Scheme and Scheme for Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation infrastructure through our scheme also assisting the processing units in Fruits & Vegetable sector including units for processing of potatoes.